

Chigasaki Wave



Chigasaki Wave Club

ウエーブ
茅ヶ崎 波 倶楽部

Sea breezes are like precious friends, easing your mind, and whispering encouragement to you.

Agricultural production corporation Ohtake Farm Company in Serizawa

Ohtake Farm Company, to the west of Chigasaki Satoyama Park, cultivates leafy vegetables: Japanese mustard spinach, edible chrysanthemum, spinach, mizuna, wasabi greens and some other vegetables. The farm company also produces rice, including Koshihikari. As we reported in the 1st issue of the online news, Ohtake Farm supplies sake rice, Gohyakumangoku (五百万石), to Kumazawa brewing company in Kagawa.

The farmhouse has lasted for more than 10 generations, since the Edo Period. When we visited in early November, spinach was growing on the farmland in front of the house. The current owner, Koichi Ohtake, established the farm company in 2013, after ruminating on how to raise productivity and sales, and how to build a sustainable agricultural system. He hopes to recover, improve and preserve the environment of satoyama, or hilly woodland close to living areas in English, and to hand down the rich natural environment to the next generation. Based on this desire, he promotes the reclamation and utilization of abandoned farmland, not only to expand arable land, but to protect the environment, as such land tends to turn into waste disposal sites. He has also reduced agrochemical usage.



He has been creating his own business network for more than ten years, by searching out new customers and supplying them directly, independently of the agriculture cooperative's distribution channel. Today, the company, with about 20 workers, ships their vegetables to wholesale markets in Yokohama, Fujisawa and Chigasaki, Seven Farm, Wai-wai markets run by JA Sagami, restaurants and more. Mr Ohtake says his awareness of business operations, including the management of time, sales, cost and profit has risen since he established his own company. He has gained customers' confidence and information more than ever. He also says agriculture in Kanagawa represents agriculture in Japan. Things happening in Kanagawa will happen in other areas in Japan, and the other way around.



<http://ohtake-farm.co.jp/>

Hikaru Sato the new mayor of the City of Chigasaki

Hikaru Sato, aged 49, won the November 18 mayoral election, which was held as the former mayor, Nobuaki Hattori, passed away of cerebral hemorrhage in early October before his fourth term of office ended. Mr Sato, supported by the Liberal Democratic Party and Komei Party, used to be a member of the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly. He pledged to basically follow the late Hattori's way of governing the city, which lasted for 15 years. His campaign manager was Taro Kohno, the current Foreign Minister. The runner-up was the candidate, aged 63, supported by opposition parties, and the third was a 62-year-old independent candidate, a visiting university lecturer. The turnout was 40.9%, the lowest ever.

Ironically, the independent candidate became famous overnight, as nationwide broadcasts aired his allegedly irritating election campaign.

Susumu Okazaki, aged 54, a former member of the municipal assembly, won the special municipal election held on the day.



<http://chigasakiwave.sakura.ne.jp>

The 2018 Policy Contest for future Chigasaki

The city office held the fifth policy contest for future Chigasaki on November 11. People eligible to apply were those aged 16 to 29. Seven groups made ten-minute presentations of their ideas on how to bring a brilliant future to Chigasaki. Before the contest day arrived, every group had had meetings three times to study problems with the status quo of the city. Their proposals were, for example, to make use of Social Networking Systems to advertise the city's good points such as cozy neighborhoods, for young people to renovate old vacant houses and then be allowed to use those houses for events or as craft centers, to upgrade and expand the share cycle system, and to promote exchange between elderly people and children after school at regional community centers. A group of male students from Bunkyo University earned the highest score from the audience. They presented the idea on how to create jobs for senior citizens who are looking for something to make life worth living. The students suggested cropping vegetables on idle farmland and selling them in the community bus, *Eboshi-go*, as a circulating vegetable shop. In addition, they proposed that both elderly and young people live in the same buildings in the Tsurugadai housing complex, and work together for community events. The city office is now reviewing fundamental plans for the next 10-year period which will start in 2021. It would be wonderful if some of their ideas are taken up.

Volunteer groups in and around Chigasaki Cinematheque Chigasaki

Cinematheque Chigasaki has turned ten years old since it was established in 2008. The leader, Kozo Fukuda, says they have since screened 46 Japanese and foreign movies, many of which are well-known and considered to be premier movies such as *Citizen Kane* and *Rashomon*, mostly at the city library. Those movies are classified into three categories: the greatest silent movies in world movie history (2008-10), Japanese movies, screened under the series title *A Song Praising Shonan Film Artists* (2011-14), and movies by best directors of all time (2014-18). Each time, they have had guest talks related to the movies screened on the day to learn trends in film history. They invited an impressive line-up, including directors, cameramen, producers and actresses, who had played a role in producing those movies, until the 32nd movie screening in May 2014. Mr. Fukuda cited Shizuo Takenouchi, the producer of Yasujiro Ozu's films, as an influential guest. These interesting talks are recorded and preserved at the city library.

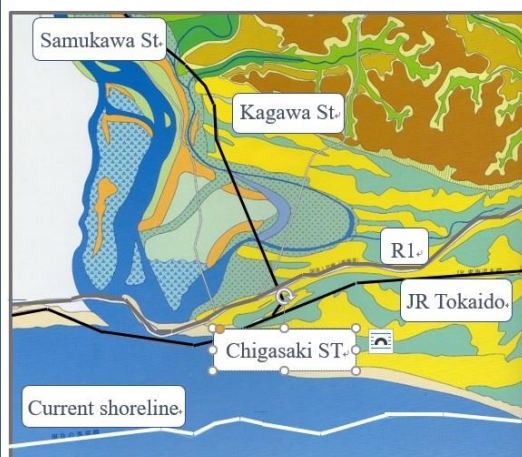
At that time, many people working for the movie industry lived in Kamakura, Fujisawa and Chigasaki, as major film company Shochiku Studio existed in Ofuna until 2000. Many of these people, however, have become old or passed away, so the group has difficulty inviting such people. Recently critic and professor for movie history Takehito Deguchi is regularly involved in talks after screening.

Among the regular audience, fans come from as far as Yugawara or Tokyo. The group consisting of four members, including Mr. Fukuda, keeps their activity, "Shonan Movie Screening", hoping that citizens get acquainted with movie culture. In the next show on February 3 (Sun), 2019, a movie entitled "Boyhood" will be screened from 12:30 pm. URL <http://jford.blog.fc2.com/>



Nature in Chigasaki Rapid regression of coast line made vast sand hill

After the sea level reached its highest in the early Jomon era (7,000 to 5,500 years ago), rapid coastal offlap started in the middle or late Jomon era (5,500 to 3,300 years ago), and the valley floors of the Koide and Mekujiri Rivers, and Shinmei Valley turned into plain fields. Sandbanks deposited near the mouths of the rivers and valley hindered water flow, but water eroded the sandbars. The rapidly regressing strand line left several other sandbanks, and two sandbanks among them grew into Akabane (the fourth) and Kowada (the sixth) Sandhills, respectively. As Kowada Sandhill was long and wide, the Tokaido was constructed on it much later. From the last Jomon to the early Yayoi eras (3,000 ~ 2,200 years ago), Nango (the seventh) and Hamasuka No.2 (the eighth) Sandhills were formed, and around 2,000 years ago, Hamasuka No.1 (the ninth) Sandhill also appeared. At that time, many sandbanks developed along the shore of the Japanese archipelago, and Sagami Bay was no exception. It is said Chigasaki had



Japan's second most extensive sand dunes following Tottori, until the late 1800s to early 1900s when Chigasaki was developed as a cottage town.

From the late Jomon to the middle and late Yayoi eras, Nishikubo and Enzo regions emerged from the surface of the sea. But they did not seem to be suitable for human habitation. Thus, humans had to wait a hundred years until they could live there. Meanwhile, on the plateau some 30 meters above sea level in the northern part of the city, four big settlements were found. Each settlement had mutual relations with the others. Researchers excavated four kitchen middens of 2,000 years; one for each of the four settlements. Namegaya shell mounds, to the west of Bunkyo University, showed pit dwelling sites, clay figures and much spouted earthenware. Kuboyama shell mounds were in the northwestern end of Satoyama Park and Maruyama & Endo shell mounds were in the border area with Fujisawa. (Source: Chigasaki City Museum of Heritage Report)

Interested in Japanese Proverbs?

(1) 案ずるより産むが易し

(ANZURU YORI UMU GA YASUSHI)

ANZURU means to worry, **YORI** rather than, **UMUGA** to give birth and **YASUSHI** easier.

To give birth to a child is an important and dangerous task for women. Naturally, they worry a lot, but finally they will realize that childbirth is easier than anticipated. Likewise, before starting a thing, people worry a lot. But once they get started, they will notice that it is easier than they thought. So, don't worry too much. Another Japanese proverb says when you make the first step, your task is more than half finished.

This saying was in Akutaro (a kyogen: a farce played during a Noh cycle). Akutaro means a bad boy in English.

Its English equivalents are:

- An attempt is sometimes easier than expected.
- You never know what you can do till you try.
- Fear overruns the danger.

(2) 一を聞いて十を知る

(ICHI WO KIITE JU WO SHIRU)

ICHI means one thing, **WO KIITE** to listen to, **JU** ten things, and **WO SHIRU** to assume

Smart people will understand the whole from hearing only a single bit of information. Or they are so wise that they recognize ten from hearing one. Needless to say, such people can do excellent jobs. They also make others feel comfortable as they can anticipate the needs of others with a great perspective. How can ordinary people become like them? Do you remember what the lecturer said at a seminar for fresh business people? He or she probably said they should listen carefully what others say. The proverb appeared in the fifth chapter "Kung-Yeh Chang" of the Analects of Confucius. Its English equivalents are:

- A word to a wise man is enough.
- Send a wise man on an errand and say nothing unto him.
- Many words to a fool, half a word to the wise.

History of Chigasaki

Manpukuji Temple



To the west of the Banba bus stop on Hachioji road there is a temple called [Manpukuji Temple](#). The honorific mountain prefix of the Koyasan Shingon sect temple is Taiko-zan. It was built between 1185 and 1189, and its first chief priest was Chinkai hoin (hoin was the name of the temple's highest-rank) of Chorakuji-Temple in Suka village, today's Hiratsuka City. The main temple houses Amida Nyorai (Amitabha Tathagata), the principal icon of the temple, and many other statues of Buddha as well as Juo-Jigoku emaki (a picture scroll depicting ten rulers of hell), the temple's treasure. The box of the richly colored scroll bears "Kanji Genroku 9 nen Hinoene Shiwasu Konryu nari Soshyu Takakura-gun Hagisono-mura Jyuou dou Jyumotsu", or the treasure of ten ruler temple established in December 1696, in Hagisono-village, Takakura-gun, Soshyu, today's Kanagawa Prefecture in English.

The emaki plainly explains Juo (the ten rulers) thought with the picture of each ruler. The Juo thought appeared in Tang under the influence of Taoism. It is said the thought became popular in Japan in the Kamakura era. Juo are judges at the ten stations dead people must pass through on their way to the underworld. A well-known ruler among the ten is Yama, the King of Hell. Entering the main gate of the temple and going toward the kitchen, you will see the Juo-hall on your right, which houses colorful statues of the ten rulers around Yama's.

How to get there: Take a bus bound for Koyato at the northern entrance of Chigasaki Station, get off at Banba and walk for one minute.

Nango the Museum

Various lectures were held at the Nango public hall and its neighboring districts between November 10 and 16. The 7th Eco-Museum was planned jointly by the city and Maruhaku-no-kai (see CW29). Ninety-minute lectures were given on Nanko-in, Eboshi rock, Nango hamaori festival, summer cottages and other historical spots and events. A fisherman explained gill-net fishing. Workshops and historic spot tours, including Nanko-in and its vicinity and shrines in Nango, were also held during the week. Each lecture had around 60 listeners. Three mini lectures, for 45 minutes, were also held about stone images of the Buddha, people related to Nango and Unosuke Sasaki.

The concept of the eco-museum is to consider the whole of the city as a museum and its culture, history, nature, industry, commerce as well as residents and buildings as resources. One of the purposes of the activity is to utilize these resources by studying and letting people know about these treasures. Lot of pictures of resources of Nango were exhibited on the walls of the public hall.



People in Chigasaki (7) Rudolf Ratien

(A bimonthly serial)

A street extending from the north to the south with a dramatic view of Eboshi-iwa in the distance, is called Ratien Street (see CW1), named after a German business man, Rudolf Ratien.

He was born in Hanover on March 23, 1879, came to Japan as a staff member of a trading company in 1902, and married Asao Doi, a Japanese woman coming from Okayama Prefecture in 1908. He founded an import firm, "Ratien Trading Company", in 1911. In the 1920s, his business succeeded in importing automobiles produced by Benz, cameras by Leica, and cutlery by Solingen and others. He introduced Mercedes-Benz 770 Glossary to the Japanese Imperial Family as an imperial carriage in 1935. He also worked as the Representative from Japan of Polydor Record.

He bought land of around 46,000 m² in Chigasaki to build his villa in 1932. Featuring a pentagon-shaped hole, it had played an important role in welcoming guests. He was well-known for being a Japanophile, and planted cherry trees along the street from his villa to the beach to build a sense of community and strengthen the ties with local people.

His company in Tokyo burnt down to the ground in 1945, during WWII. His villa was confiscated by the US occupation army in 1947 and he was forced to live in a temporary shelter built at the corner of his villa. He passed away on June 15, 1947, buried in Yokohama Foreigners Graveyard. After the derequisition in 1951, his villa and its ground were sold to various companies, including TOTO Ltd, in 1958. Now, the Mastugaoka Ratien Street Park provides us with a memory of his villa.

Why do you think Eboshi rock looks majestic from a certain point on Ratien Street? See the picture above. This is probably a mystery for many citizens. Actually, the rock looks bigger from the street than from the beach. Scientific explanation probably exists, but perhaps few people know the reason.



Flower exhibition

The 61st exhibition and sale of flowers in Chigasaki took place at the entrance hall of AEON Chigasaki Central Shop on November 23. Five local flower growers exhibited their potted flowers, including pansies and cyclamens. Shoppers stopped at the corner one after another and listened to the explanations by growers. Another flower exhibition is scheduled for February next year at Tsujido Terrace Mall.

Flowers in season and out of season

Cosmos were in full bloom on Hagisono farm 21 near the Koide River (the photo bottom left). On the afternoon of a fine November day, visitors were picking the flowers. Near the site, festivals of Kawazu zakura, Higanbana and Chrysanthemums are held annually.

Yellow carpets of sunflowers have appeared near Samukawa Shrine. The Samukawa-machi Tourist Association grows the sunflowers a few times a year. This species takes only two months to bloom after seeding. When the garden was opened to the public in late November, visitors took pictures of the flowers and themselves. The winter sunflowers were also aired by NHK and TV Asahi on these days.



Health Festa

The event to raise citizens' consciousness on the prevention of diabetes was held on the first floor of City Hall on Nov. 3. There were lectures by a dentist and physician about periodontal disease, diabetes, lifestyle-related illnesses and other topics related to the two diseases. In the corners of the venue, applicants were waiting their turns to have their vascular age and the blood-sugar level checked. Personally, I felt that the stretching exercises you can do at home were worth learning.

Fureai Festival

The 35th Citizen Fureai Festival took place at Chuo Koen on Nov. 3. About 60 groups set up tents in the flea market and food market corners. Various food from roasted sweet-potatoes and frankfurt sausages to pancakes and pork miso soup were sold. The flea market is usually the largest in the city's festival, but due to the office building construction, it



was slightly smaller this year. On the stage, hula, cheer, hip-hop and kids dance performances by local groups and the humorous appeal of the three clowns from the Clown Circus delighted spectators of all ages. In addition, an interview with actress Momoko Tanabe took place. She is playing the role of Kayo Hanazono in a drama named "I haven't heard anything about such a future", which has been filmed in Chigasaki.

Events in November



Rainbow Festival

The 22nd Rainbow Festival was held at Chigasaki Satoyama Park on Nov. 11. Blessed with fine autumnal weather, the whole area was crowded with nuclear and three generation families. At tents surrounding the multi-purpose square and on the wind terrace, fresh vegetables, fruits and young plants grown by local farmers attracted visitors. Food vendors sold chow mein, grilled chicken and other familiar foods and beverages at event stalls. Children gathered at game corners. On the two stages about 30 groups performed wonderful and energetic dancing, and played the guitar, ukulele, ocarinas and Japanese drums.



Citizen Cultural Festival

The second half of the cultural festival offered citizens good opportunities to directly feel and enjoy various arts, mostly for free. Each venue was not so crowded, so audiences were able to watch, hear and appraise exhibited works and performances in a relaxed atmosphere.



Chrysanthemums and Bonsai

Chrysanthemums were displayed in the front yard of the Comprehensive Gymnasium from Nov. 1 to the 13th. About 50 bonsai were displayed in the exhibition room of the Civic Hall from Nov. 9 to the 11th. Potted small trees such as pine trees and maple trees had a quiet but strong atmosphere.

Instrumental Trio Concert and Biwa Concert

The two concerts were held at the large and small halls on the afternoon of Nov 4. Perhaps not many people had often listened to Japanese classical music in their daily lives. But it is not wrong to make time, once in a while, to listen to the tones from these instruments, songs and narration in a relaxed atmosphere. The citizen cultural festival provides citizens with such a chance. Simple melodies probably touched the heartstrings of the listeners.



Photography Exhibition

It was held at the exhibition room on Nov. 2, 3 and 4. Over 150 photos by the members of five photo clubs in the city were displayed. Many of them were taken in Chigasaki and neighbouring cities. The sea, the beach and mountains in these photos tell us we live in a beautiful city.

Classical (vocal) concerts

The classical concert was held at the small hall on the afternoon of Nov. 10. The piano and violin performances and singing by twenty-five soloists and duos were wonderful. Even elementary school girls showed excellent techniques. On the 18th a vocal concert was held by five female singers of Bel Canto Chigasaki, a Chigasaki-based soloist group. Their beautiful voices pleased the audience.

Chanson & Canzone, Western-style Dance and more were also held. How about watching or listening to one or two of them next year. You may find a new hobby.



Events in December and Early January

Shonan International Marathon

The 13th Shonan International Marathon is to be held on Dec. 2 (Sun). Around 25,000 runners will participate in one of the four races (full marathon, 10km run, family run and run & walk for handicapped people). Full marathon runners are to start at Oiso, run east to Enoshima, and then to return to Oiso.

Chigasaki City Museum of Art

Prints exhibition will be held from Dec. 9 (Sun) to Feb. 3 (Sun).
Entrance fee (yen): Adult 200, student 100.

Daruma markets



A traditional Daruma market will be held at Dairokuten Shrine in Jitsukenzaka on Dec 27 (Thurs). Daruma shops will be ready to sell their daruma around 15:00 and will close around 21:00. The next day the market will open in Samukawa, along the street stretching south from the south entrance of JR Samukawa Station to the Japanese confectionery shop, Hogetsu-do.

Hakone Ekiden Race

The nation's oldest and greatest ekiden race is to take place on Jan 2 (from Tokyo to Hakone) and the 3rd (from Hakone to Tokyo). Twenty universities in

Kanto will participate. On the two days many events will be held on the beach by local groups, including the Yanagishima kite club.

Konan Ekiden Race

The oldest long-distance road relay in Kanagawa is usually held on Coming-of-Age Day. Runners will run a different course this time, starting at Yanagishima athletic park.

Citizen Gallery (☎ 0467-87-8384) at the exhibition room on the 4th floor of Nespa Chigasaki **Admission free!**



Photo exhibition *Photoshop picture show* by Group studying how to read music:

Nov 28 (Wed) 13:00 ~ 16:30, 29 (Thurs) to Dec 2 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:30, 3 (Mon) 10:00 ~ 15:00

Painting exhibition *The 5th Chigasaki tableau oil painting exhibition* by the Chigasaki tableau club:

Dec 5 (Wed) to 8 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 17:00, 9 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 15:00

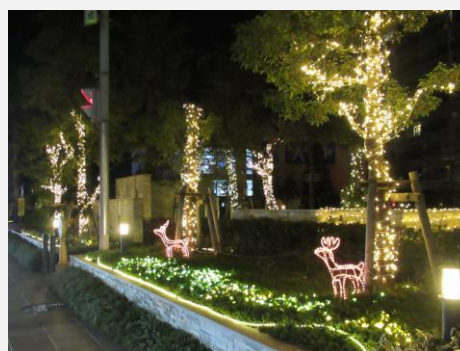
Painting exhibition *RRS Atelier Pop exhibition* by RRS Atelier Pop:

Dec 15 (Sat) 10:00 ~ 18:00 and 16 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 17:00

Original work exhibition by Western Chigasaki section of Kanagawa pensioners association:

Dec 21 (Fri) to 23 (Sun) 10:00 ~ 16:00

Year-end illuminations in and around the city



Thanks for reading our stories. See you soon!
Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year